



**Community & Economic Development Division  
Planning and Development Services**

7447 East Indian School Road, Suite 105  
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**To:** Historic Preservation Commission  
**From:** Taylor Reynolds, Project Coordination Liaison  
**Through:** Steve Venker, Historic Preservation Officer  
Erin Perreault, AICP, Long Range Planning Director  
**Date:** February 6, 2020  
**Re:** Appointment of (1) Historic Preservation Commission member to serve on the General Plan Update Citizen Review Committee.

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This memorandum presents the General Plan update process and requests the appointment of one (1) Historic Preservation Commission member to serve on the General Plan Citizen Review Committee

**BACKGROUND**

The current Scottsdale General Plan was adopted in 2001 and ratified by the voters in 2002. The Plan defines the community's goals for growth, development, character, mobility and a variety of other community aspects. Per State Statute, the city is required to update and ratify the General Plan every ten (10) years. In June 2010, the Arizona Legislature passed House Bill 2145, extending the timeframe for cities and towns to adopt an updated or new General Plan by July 1, 2015. In March 2012, after three (3) years of public input, the Scottsdale City Council sent an updated 2011 General Plan to the voters. However, the measure was defeated (52% to 48%), and thus, the 2001 General Plan remains in effect until the city adopts and ratifies a new General Plan.

In January 2013, City Council again provided staff with direction on the public outreach, drafting and adoption/ratification timing associated with the process to update the Scottsdale General Plan. City Council unanimously directed staff to establish a citizen task force to oversee the drafting of a new plan.

At a March 2014 study session, the Scottsdale City Council provided direction on the preliminary draft General Plan, as created by the Task Force. Ultimately, unanimous council direction to the Task Force included extending public outreach efforts regarding the draft Plan into 2015. In a June 2014 study session, the Scottsdale City Council further directed that the Task Force continue the process of creating a draft General Plan for community, Planning Commission, and City Council consideration. Consequently, the General Plan Task Force continued working to draft a new General Plan through November 2014, at which time they released their final recommended draft General Plan 2035 to the Planning Commission. Upon the completion of their work, the Task Force ceased operating as a public body per the Council amended by-laws.

At a June 2015 public study session, the City Council discussed the community, and board and commission comments received about the draft 2035 Plan. City Council directed staff to continue public discussions with key community members to identify potential compromises to the plan that would be brought back for the City Council to review. Public outreach on the draft plan continued through January 2016, and a number of less substantive changes, along with larger, more substantive changes to the plan were suggested at a small, citizen group meeting (attendees included former Task Force and Coalition of Greater Scottsdale members) held in June 2016. In August 2016, Council directed staff to collect community input on the more substantive plan changes suggested during the small, citizen group meeting. During the Fall of 2016, public input was collected regarding changes to the Rural Neighborhood land use category, however, ultimately City Council did not support these suggested plan changes, in a December 2016 public meeting. Rather, Council directed staff to bring back an updated 2001 General Plan that incorporates all state mandated content, any necessary changes to the plan to update it to existing community conditions, and the community-created Art and Culture Element created as part of the draft General Plan 2035 process.

The first phase of this multiphase process in updating Scottsdale General Plan was completed on November 12, 2019. Phase two of the General Plan update, which will be more comprehensive, will begin early 2020 with a complete plan update via a Citizen Review Committee, with a targeted election date for voter ratification in November 2021.

### **GENERAL PLAN UPDATE PROCESS**

As a result of the public input and process gathered to date, the foundation to the comprehensive update of the General Plan will be the draft 2035 General Plan. Staff is currently in the process of Phase 2, City Staff Technical Advisory Committee Review, and are preparing for the Citizen Review Committee phase to begin.

**Phase 1. Data Collection and Analysis (completed):** This is the initial stage of the process that includes reviewing related studies, plans, policies, and existing conditions.

**Phase 2. City Staff Technical Advisory Committee Review (January - April 2020):** During this phase, an interdepartmental city staff team is formed to review the draft plan. This team is made up of city staff who have expertise in subjects specific to a General Plan element. For example: city staff from Code Enforcement, Planning, Human Services and Office of Citizen Service make up the interdepartmental team who reviews the Housing and the Neighborhood Preservation & Revitalizations Elements.

**Phase 3. Citizen Review Committee (March - December 2020):** A General Plan citizen group made up of representatives from each of the General Plan relevant city board and commissions will be formed to review the draft 2035 General Plan.

**Phase 4. State Statute Required Public Hearing Process and Adoption by City Council (1st and 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2021):** The draft 2035 General Plan as modified the Technical Advisory Committee, the

Citizen Review Committee and public input, will be available for public review and comment. and then make its way through a six-month state required public hearing process that includes extensive public involvement along with multiple Planning Commission and City Council hearings. The General Plan will go before the City Council for adoption in the June of 2021.

Phase 5. Voter Ratification (November 2021): Per State Statute, the Council must place the General Plan on the next regular ballot to be ratified by the voters.

### **GENERAL PLAN CITIZEN REVIEW COMMITTEE**

To ensure the General Plan represents the community at large, a Citizen Review Committee will be formed to provide feedback and ensure consistency of the Plan. The Citizen Review Committee will review each of the draft plan elements. This input will be incorporated into a final draft General Plan for community and Board and Commission review and ultimately for City Council review and action. This working group process is consistent with the 2001 and 2011 General Plan update processes.

The Citizen Review Committee will consist of thirteen (13) representatives, one member from each applicable city Board and Commission. Each applicable Board and Commission will appoint one member, preferably the Chair or Vice Chair, to the Citizen Review Committee. Once all appointments have been made, it is anticipated that the Citizen Review Committee begin meeting twice per month, March through December 2020. All meetings will be conducted as public meetings—agendas will be posted, minutes will be taken and the public is welcome to attend. It will most likely be on the 1st and 3rd Monday of the month to avoid conflicts with existing board and commission meetings; however, the precise schedule will be determined based on the overall availability of the appointees.

### **NEXT STEPS**

City staff is in the process of visiting each applicable Board and Commission to request their appointment to serve on the Citizen Review Committee. Once each appointment is received, the Citizen Review Committee will begin meeting in March. The Citizen Review Committee is a vital part of the General Plan update process as board and commission expertise will make the draft 2035 General Plan that much stronger.

### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION**

Staff requests and recommends:

- A. Appointment of the Historic Preservation Commission Chair or Vice Chair to serve on the 2035 General Plan Update Citizen Review Committee, or
- B. If conflicts in the appointment of the Historic Preservation Commission Chair or Vice Chair exists, appointment of another member of the Historic Preservation Commission to serve on the 2035 Citizen Review Committee, may be acceptable.

If at any time Historic Preservation Commission members have questions regarding the Scottsdale General Plan update, please feel free to contact:

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